

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Rex Hwang on 7/25/2008.

Claim 1. A method for automatically generating a multi-level video summary, comprising:

automatically dividing a video file into multimedia stream segments without user input using segmenting criteria;

automatically generating at least two summary levels without user input, wherein each of the summary levels has a different level of detail and each of the summary levels is a linear multimedia stream which includes at least one of the multimedia stream_segments from the video file, the multimedia stream_segments in each of the summary levels selected using selection criteria and at least one algorithms; and

automatically generating navigational links between the multimedia stream segments in the summary levels without user input, wherein one or more algorithms are used to dynamically determine link behavior, the navigational links connecting the multimedia stream segments containing related material.

providing a user interface to allow a user to refine the automatically generated navigational links, wherein each level of the summary is presented in a layout as a horizontal list of keyframes, wherein the navigational links are pictorially represented as arrows going into and out of the keyframes, and wherein the user refines the navigational links by manipulating the pictorially represented arrows.

Claims 19. A system for automatically generating a multi-level video summary, comprising:

means for automatically dividing a video file into multimedia stream segments without user input using segmenting criteria;

means for automatically generating at least two summary levels, wherein each of the summary levels has a different level of detail and each of the summary levels is a linear multimedia stream which includes at least one of the multimedia stream segments from the video file, the multimedia stream segments in each of the summary levels selected using selection criteria and at least one algorithm; and

means for automatically generating navigational links between the multimedia stream segments in the summary levels, wherein one or more algorithms are used to dynamically determine link behavior, the navigational links connecting the multimedia stream segments containing related material.

providing a user interface to allow a user to refine the automatically generated navigational links, wherein each level of the summary is presented in a layout as a horizontal list of keyframes, wherein the navigational links are pictorially represented as

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arrows going into and out of the keyframes, and wherein the user refines the navigational links by manipulating the pictorially represented arrows.

Claim 20 (canceled)

Claim 21(canceled)

/Thai Tran/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2621

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

For claims 1 and 19, there's no teaching or suggestion in the prior art for "providing a user interface to allow a user to refine the automatically generated navigational links, wherein each level of the summary is presented in a layout as a horizontal list of keyframes, wherein the navigational links are pictorially represented as arrows going into and out of the keyframes, and wherein the user refines the navigational links by manipulating the pictorially represented arrows."

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."